INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

सदन के नेता (श्री जसवन्त सिंह) : उपसभापति महोदया और माननीय सदस्यों से मैं श्रीमती जसकौर मीणा का परिचय कराना चाहूंगा, जो कि मंत्रिमंडल में मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री नियुक्त हुई हैं।

उपसभापति : पहले तो हम लोग बहुत ताली बजाकर मंत्रियों का स्वागत करते थे। क्वेश्चन ऑवर में we put them on the mat.

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक) : यह स्वागत का तरीका है।

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts (2000-2001) of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): Madam, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Akademi.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.- 6030/02]

Notifications of the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : Madam, I lay on the Table-

(i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs (Department of Revenue),

under sub-section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, together with Explanatory Memoranda on the Notifications:-

(1) G.S.R. 786 (E) dated the 29th November, 2002, publishing the Notification No.132/2002-Customs dated the 29th November, 2002, seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Sodium Nitrite, originating in or exported from European Union and Taiwan.

(2) G.S.R. 804 (E) dated the 5th December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 134/2002-Customs dated the 5th December, 2002 seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Cold Rolled Flat Products of stainless steel originating in, or exported from European Union, Japan, Canada and the United States of America.

(3) G.S.R. 808 (E) dated the 9th December, 2002 publishing the Notification No.135/2002-Customs dated the 9th December, 2002 seeking to rescind Notification No. 132/2001-Customs dated the 28th December, 2001, under which provisional anti-dumping duty was imposed on Cold Rolled Flat Products of stainless steel originating in, or exported from, the European Union, Japan, Canada and the United States of America.

(4) G.S.R. 813 (E) dated the 10th December, 2002, publishing the Notification No.138/2002-Customs dated the 10th December, 2002, seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on compact Fluorescent Lamp, originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China and Hong Kong.

(5) G.S.R. 814 (E) dated the 10th December, 2002, publishing the Notification No.139/2002-Customs dated the 10th December, 2002, seeking to rescind Notification No. 128/2001-Customs dated the 21st December, 2001, under which provisional anti-dumping duty was imposed on compact Fluorescent Lamp, originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China and Hong Kong. [Placed in Library. For (1) to (5) *See* No. L.T.- 6894/02]

(6) G.S.R. 839 (E) dated the 26th December, 2002, publishing the Notification No.141/2002-Customs dated the 26th December, 2002,

seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Vitamin AD3-500/100 originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China.

(7) G.S.R. 840 (E) dated the 26th December, 2002, publishing the Notification No.142/2002-Customs dated the 26th December, 2002, seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Sodium Hydroxide commonly known as caustic soda originating in, or exported from the Republic of Korea and the People's of Republic of China.

(8) G.S.R. 844 (E) dated the 27th December, 2002, publishing the Notification No.143/2002-Customs dated the 27th December, 2002, seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Vitamin-C, originating in, or exported from the United States of America and Canada.

(9) G.S.R. 1 (E) dated the 1st January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.1/2003-Customs dated the 1st January, 2003, seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty, on Induction Hardened Forged Rolls originating in, or exported from Russia, Ukraine and Korea RP.

(10) G.S.R. 2 (E) dated the 2nd January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.2/2003-Customs dated the 2nd January, 2003, seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on mulberry raw silk originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China.

(11) G.S.R. 7 (E) dated the 3rd January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.5/2003-Customs dated the 3rd January, 2003, seeking to amend Notification No. 69/2000-Customs dated the 19th May, 2000, so as to extend the scope of the existing exemption from anti-dumping duty on metcoke imported from the People's Republic of China.

(12) G.S.R. 14 (E) dated the 7th January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.7/2003-Customs dated the 7th January, 2003, seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Float Glass from the People's Republic of China and Indonesia.

(13) G.S.R. 31 (E) dated the 15th January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.10/2003-Customs dated the 15th January, 2003,

seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on Hydrofluoric Acid originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China.

(14) G.S.R. 32 (E) dated the 15th January, 2003, publishing the Notification No. 11/2003-Customs dated the 15th January, 2003, seeking to amend the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

(15) G.S.R. 40 (E) dated the 20th January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.12/2003-Customs dated the 20th January, 2003, seeking to extend anti-dumping duty on graphite electrodes, originating in, or exported from the United States of America, Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, People's Republic of China and Belgium.

(16) G.S.R. 54 (E) dated the 24th January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.17/2003-Customs dated the 24th January, 2003, seeking to amend Notifications issued under section 3A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

(17) G.S.R. 55 (E) dated the 24th January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.18/2003-Customs dated the 24th January, 2003, seeking to amend Notifications issued under section 8B of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

(18) G.S.R. 56 (E) dated the 24th January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.18/2002-Customs dated the 24th January, 2003 seeking to amend Notifications issued under section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

(19) G.S.R. 57 (E) dated the 24th January, 2003, publishing the Customs Tariff Rules under section 5 (Amendment) Rules, 2003.

(20) G.S.R. 74 (E) dated the 31st January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.20/2003-Customs dated the 31st January, 2003, seeking to impose final anti-dumping duty on import of graphite electrodes Ultra High Power grade from Poland and Brazil.

(21) G.S.R. 75 (E) dated the 31st January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.21/2003-Customs dated the 31st January, 2003, seeking to rescind Notification No. 59/2002-Customs dated the 5th June, 2002, under which provisional anti-dumping duty was imposed on graphite electrodes-Ultra High Power grade from Poland and Brazil. [Placed in Library. For (6) to (21) *See* No. L.T.-7009/03]

(ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs (Department of Revenue), under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962, together with Explanatory Memoranda on the Notifications:-

(1) G.S.R. 483(E) dated the 15th November, 2002, amending the Notification No. 227-Customs, dated the 29th November, 1980 in respect of the maps of Geological Survey of India (GSI). [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.- 7008/03]

(2) G.S.R. 792 (E) dated the 3rd December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 133/2002-Customs dated the 3rd December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R 291 (E) dated the 23rd July, 1996.

(3) G.S.R. 807(E) dated the 9th December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 136/2002-Customs dated the 9th December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R 118 (E) dated the 1st March, 2002. [Placed in Library. For (2) to (3) *See* No. L.T.-6893/02]

(4) G.S.R. 833(E) dated the 23rd December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 140/2002-Customs dated the 23rd December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R 118 (E) dated the 1st March, 2002.

(5) G.S.R. 856(E) dated the 31st December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 144/2002-Customs dated the 31st December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R 118 (E) dated the 1st March, 2002.

(6) G.S.R. 857(E) dated the 31st December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 145/2002-Customs dated the 31st December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R 585 (E) dated the 20th August, 2002.

(7) G.S.R. 10(E) dated the 3rd January, 2003, publishing the Notification No. 3/2003-Customs dated the 3rd January, 2003, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R 792 (E) dated the 3rd December, 2002.

(8) G.S.R. 6(E) dated the 3rd January, 2003, amending Notification No. 21/2002-Custom dated the 1st March, 2002.

(9) G.S.R. 13(E) dated the 6th January, 2003, publishing the Notification No. 6/2003-Customs dated the 6th January, 2003, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R 291 (E) dated the 23rd July, 1996.

(10) G.S.R. 30(E) dated the 15th January, 2003, amending the Notification No. 40/2002-Customs dated the 12th April, 2002.

(11) G.S.R. 41(E) dated the 20th January, 2003, amending the Notification No. 105/99-Customs dated the 10th August, 1999.

(12) G.S.R. 53(E) dated the 24th January, 2003, amending the Notifications issued under sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act 1962.

(13) G.S.R. 58(E) dated the 24th January, 2003, amending the Customs Regulations under Section 157 (Amendment) Regulations, 2003. [Placed in Library. For (4) to (13) *See* No. L.T.-7008/03]

(iii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs (Department of Economic Affairs), under sub-section (2) of section 40 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002:-

(1) S.O. 5 dated the 4th January, 2003, publishing the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2002.

(2) S.O.105 (E) dated the 28th January, 2003, specifying "Cooperative Bank" as 'bank' Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.-7006/03]

(iv). A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs (Department of Revenue), under sub-section (2) of section 38 of Central Excise Act, 1944, together with a copy of the Explanatory Memoranda on the Notifications:-

(1) G.S.R. 791 (E) dated the 3rd December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 58/2002-Central Excise, dated the 3rd December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R. 256 (E) dated the 16th March, 1995. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.-6892/02]

(2) G.S.R. 827 (E) dated the 19th December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 60/2002-Central Excise, dated the 19th December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R. 565 (E) dated the 31st July, 2001.

(3) G.S.R. 834 (E) dated the 23rd December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 61/2002-Central Excise, dated the 23rd December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R. 508 (E) dated the 8th July, 1999.

(4) G.S.R. 835 (E) dated the 23rd December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 42/2002-Central Excise, dated the 23rd December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R. 144 (E) dated the 1st March, 2002.

(5) G.S.R. 858 (E) dated the 31st December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 62/2002-Central Excise, dated the 31st December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R 127 (E) dated the 1st March, 2002.

(6) G.S.R. 859 (E) dated the 31st December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 63/2002-Central Excise, dated the 31st December, 2002, seeking to exempt ethanol blended petrol (manufactured from blending of motor spirit commonly known as petrol) and ethanol.

(7) G.S.R. 660 (E) dated the 31st December, 2002, publishing the Notification No. 64/2002-Central Excise, dated the 31st December, 2002, seeking to exempt Motor Spirit falling under Chapter Heading 27.10 of the 1st & 2nd Schedule of the C.E.T. Act, 1985 when intended for use in the manufacture on 5% ethanol blended petrol from so much of the duty of excise leviable thereon.

(8) G.S.R. 4 (E) dated the 2nd January, 2003, publishing the Notification No. 1/2003-Central Excise, dated the 2nd January, 2003, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R. 127(E) dated the 1st March, 2002.

(9) G.S.R. 9 (E) dated the 3rd January, 2003, publishing the Notification No. 2/2003-Central Excise, dated the 3rd January, 2003, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R. 508 (E) dated the 8th July, 1999.

(10) G.S.R. 12 (E) dated the 6th January, 2003, publishing the Notification No. 3/2003-Central Excise, dated the 6th January, 2003, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R. 135 (E) dated the 1st March, 2002.

(11) G.S.R. 62(E) dated the 27th January, 2003, publishing the Notification No.64/2002-Central Excise, dated the 31st December, 2002, seeking to amend Notification G.S.R. 660(E) dated the 31st December, 2002. [Placed in Library. For (2) to (11) *See* No. L.T.-7007/03]

(v). A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs (Department of Revenue) under section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, together with a copy of the Explanatory Memoranda on the Notifications:-

(1) S.O. 255 (E) dated the 28th February, 2002, publishing the Income-tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 2002.

(2) S.O. 1345 (E) dated the 20th December, 2002, publishing the Income-tax (27th Amendment) Rules, 2002.

(3) S.O. 104 (E) dated the 28th January, 2003, publishing the Income-tax (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2003. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.-7010/03]

(vi) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance & Company Affairs S.O. 46(E) dated the 15th January, 2003, publishing the Expenditure-tax (1st Amendment) Rules, 2003, under sub-section (4) of section 31 of the Expenditure Tax Act, 1987, together with Explanatory Memorandum on the Notification. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T.-7014/03]

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that a fax message has been received from Shri Keshubhai S. Patel stating that he is unable to attend the House due to treatment of his knee joint at Ahmedabad. He has, therefore, requested for the grant of Leave of Absence from all the sittings of the House during the first part of the current Session of the Rajya Sabha.

Does he have the permission of the House for remaining absent from all the sittings of the House during the first part of the current Session of the Rajya Sabha?

[No Hon. Member dissented]

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

Severe drought condition in the State of Andhra Pradesh

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh) : Madam, I wish to draw the attention of the Government ...*(Interruptions)*....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: One minute ...*(Interruptions)*... I will listen to you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Kindly listen just for two minutes. I will listen to